

## COULD NOT KILL SALARY BILL.

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salary increase, protesting against adding to the cost of the State government and compared the proposed increase with the salaries paid in Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama, showing by the figures he presented that Florida would be paying higher salaries than the States named.

"After hearing the Senator from the Sixth there is scarcely anything more to be said," declared Senator Beard, as he came on for his turn, but in spite of that declaration, the Senator from the Second found a great deal to say.

"The people turned down the amendment to increase the salaries of the Judges," said Mr. Beard, "and they would turn this down too, if they had a chance."

Mr. Beard then spoke of the cost of carrying on the work of the Comptroller's office, asserting that too much money was so used.

"The persons who hold these administrative offices go out in the campaign and ask the people to retain them, and then the next thing they ask is that salaries be increased," said the Senator from the Second.

"The remedy is in their own hands if they are not satisfied—they can resign."

"Talk about a railroad lobby, the most insistent and persistent lobby I have ever seen is that carried on by the executive officers, with one exception, of this administration."

Mr. Beard then asked that a report just sent to the Senate by the Governor be read, and after he had made some comment, Senator Adams said: "I do not consider that this report has any bearing on the bill under consideration. We are discussing the subject of increasing the salaries of the Cabinet officers and not the clerks."

Mr. Beard then rocked merrily along in his remarks of opposition and condemnation, and the hammer never fell on him, though he broke the ten-minute rule to smithereens.

"If Napoleon had as many troops at Waterloo as there are clerks in the Comptroller's office he would have won the victory, and if Lee had had this force at Gettysburg he never would have retreated," were two comparisons deduced by Mr. Beard, after learning that the cost of that office was more than \$17,000.

"Go down there and look at them," he cried. "They swarm about the room." Perhaps Mr. Beard included in the swarm the three expert accountants from New York, who have been working there for some week for Haskins & Sells of New York.

Nobody asked him about this, and he did not vouchsafe the information.

Senator Massey had been showing signs of restlessness, and at this break in the farce comedy invited Senator Beard's attention to the quotation from Scripture relative to plucking the mote out of the other man's eye and neglecting the beam in the eye of the plucker.

"While declaring against extravagance the Senate has been unmindful of its own extravagance," said Mr. Massey, "and I find, as chairman of the Committee on Legislative Expenses, that \$2,500 will be paid out for clerks without return to the people."

"It does not lie in our mouths to say anything about the State government, in view of the extravagance of the Senate in clerk-hire," he continued.

Mr. Beard asked: "If we have been recklessly extravagant does it follow that we should not try to check extravagance elsewhere?"

Mr. Massey: "No, but it does not lie in our mouths to denounce others for extravagance."

"The Senators from the Sixth and Second did not talk to the real question of the bill. The Senator from

## KILGORE SAYS THAT BILL WAS FILOCHED.

Measure Disappears After Having Passed Both House and Senate—Meets Fate of Similar Bills Two Years Ago.

Bo-Peep Kilgore set the House astir yesterday when he announced that he had lost his bill and didn't know where to find it.

But the Representative from Sumter didn't offer to take any chances on having it come home dragging a tale behind it. He intimated that there was a tale behind it, and he immediately got behind the bill—or, rather, the duplicate of the one that had been lost, pushed it through under suspension, and had it immediately certified to the Senate.

Upon the opening of the afternoon session, Mr. Kilgore stated that on April 4th he introduced a bill; it was passed on second reading April 22nd; on third reading May 2nd; went to the Senate and that body passed it May 17th, and that so far the bill had never reached the House.

"Between the Senate and House," exclaimed Mr. Kilgore, "somebody slipped in and took it out. I don't know whom to blame, but somebody's to blame, and, furthermore, a similar bill was lost in the same manner at the last session."

Mr. Kilgore said he had looked everywhere in the capitol for the bill, and it couldn't be found, so he asked unanimous consent to introduce one identical with that which had been misplaced. It was passed under suspension and certified to the Senate. In the Senate Mr. Hudson's bill, No. 31, was taken up and passed yesterday, being amended so as to cover the same points covered in the bill of Mr. Kilgore. This bill was passed under suspension and certified to the House.

So out of the three bills it does seem that Mr. Kilgore should land one for the Governor's signature. The bill which was lost was House Bill No. 8, relating to the powers and duties of the Railroad Commission with reference to inspection of physical properties and equipments of railroads.

the Sixth don't like the bill because it is not like the Georgia law."

Mr. Adams commented humorously on the demand that Georgia laws be applied to Florida, and asked if it were not possible that laws be enacted for Florida without first inquiring what Georgia had done in like case.

Mr. Adams spoke of the work that had multiplied in the State departments, and in addition this Legislature provided more work for the Railroad Commission, Comptroller and Commissioner of Agriculture, and declared it was but fair that salaries be increased. Other departments also had more work to do.

He told also of the money turned into the State Treasury by the office of the State Chemist, and asked Senator Broome if he did not remember the time that the Agricultural Department not only did not do this, but instead would ask for funds.

"The Senator from the Sixth can not deny this," declared Senator Adams. "He knows that it is true."

No stronger nor better delivered speech has been delivered in the Senate this session than that of Mr. Adams in support of this bill, and if debate has any power to sway an audience, he must have certainly added to the friends of the measure.

He said, too: "I want to state here and now that neither the Governor nor one member of his Cabinet has said one single solitary word to me on this subject."

Senator Broome then returned to the battle of words, making further remarks about the salaries of other States and reading from letters he had received.

Senator West of the Fourth spoke against the bill, declaring he would be negligent of duty to his people if he did not oppose the bill, and then Senator Beard spoke again, explaining about the vote on the constitutional amendments at the last election.

"If the people were opposed to increased salaries for judicial officers, then it follows that they would be opposed to increase for other State officers."

Senator Cone spoke for the bill, asserting that good men should be paid adequate salaries. He also called attention to the higher cost of living, and that the salary increase was but fair.

Senator Humphries opposed the bill, declaring that the people of his district would not favor it.

"One Senator has said he believed that the people would vote for it," said Mr. Humphries, "but I know the people of my district would vote against it."

Senator Crane appealed for the bill in strong terms, and referred to the many county officers who were making more money than the officers of the State Government, yet there was no suggestion of reform. Under the fee system large incomes were enjoyed by many, but the Senate had not indicated a desire to make any change, while a bill to pay the Cabinet officers proper salaries is denounced.

Senator Crane said, too, that he had not been approached by any person interested in this bill.

"Does the Senator say that he has not been approached by anybody in favor of this bill?" asked Senator Broome.

Mr. Crane: "I do, and unqualifiedly."

Mr. Broome: "I have."

Mr. Crane: "I am not responsible for the Senator from the Sixth, but only for the Senator from the Eleventh."

The motion to indefinitely postpone the bill was lost by the following vote:

Yeas—Mr. President, Senators Alford, Baker, Beard, Broome, Crews, Humphries, Jackson, Johnson, McCreary, Willis—11.

Nays—Senators Adams, Cone, Cottrell, Crane, Crill, Davis, Girardeau, Henderson, Hudson, Leggett, Massey, Neel, Trammell, Withers, West (1st), Zim—16.

## GOVERNOR RECOMMENDS REVISION.

The recent decision of Judge Swayne declaring that the assessment laws of the State are unconstitutional, was the subject of a special message to the House yesterday morning. The Governor recommended that the necessary amendments be made. The message was ordered spread on the Journal and referred to the Committee on Finance and taxation.

## DIVISIONISTS LOSE ATLANTIC COUNTY.

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would be a hardship to cut the people of the western half off from the coast. Mr. Morrison seemed to think that the diaphanous line which it was proposed to draw would raise a barrier between the eastern and the western sides, the new county having it all and the old county not being spared so much as a whiff of sea breeze.

This was as good as Mr. Carter desired to read from his joke book. So he said that he couldn't stand the thought that the boys of Stetson would be prohibited the joy of angling in Mosquito Inlet, and he gravely feared that our good citizen and compatriot, Lincoln Hulley, president of Stetson, would stand and gaze into the limpid waters of the Halifax with the feeling of a stranger in a strange land. Mr. Carter regarded Volusia as a remarkable county; any county, he said, that could produce two such men as George P. Healy and Jim Alexander was most extraordinary. He had entertained the deepest apprehensions since he had heard of the proposed division to know which side of the line these gentlemen would fall on. Mr. Carter said that the arguments in favor of division had not been sufficient to satisfy him that it should be so. So far as open saloons went, he declared that he could see no necessity to have the county any wetter than it was already, for every boarding house and hotel of consequence in Daytona sold all that was required to drink. Mr. Carter thought the governmental affairs of Volusia would be interfered with if the division were made, and said he would vote to indefinitely postpone.

Mr. Parkinson answered Mr. Carter briefly. He said there was no opportunity to interfere with the governmental affairs of the county of Volusia, for the divisionists would leave them all and would take nothing.

The motion to indefinitely postpone was made by Mr. Melton, chairman of the Committee on City and County Organization. The bill was presented with an unfavorable report by the committee, and under the rules this duty was performed by Mr. Melton.

## WILLIAMS WILL MOVE RECONSIDERATION.

Mr. Williams of Jackson will move reconsideration of the vote by which the House failed to recede from the amendment to the relief bills in the disbarment cases from that county requiring that the county of Jackson should repay the State for the costs in these cases. Mr. Williams contended from the first that these costs should be borne by the State, and there is a probability that his contention will be sustained when the vote is reconsidered. Mr. Williams says that the disbarment proceedings might have been brought in any other county in the State, and the State would have had to bear the cost, and there is no justice in requiring Jackson county to pay the costs in these cases. The Senate refused to concur in the House amendments providing that Jackson county should shoulder this burden, and Mr. Williams holds that it is plainly up to the House to recede from the amendment.

## TAMPA FAIR APPROPRIATION PENDING.

The Tampa Fair Appropriation Bill is pending in the House, adjournment having been taken at noon yesterday while the bill was under discussion. In the afternoon the bill imposing licenses and taxes was the special order and consumed the entire forenoon session and was pending upon adjournment. Mr. Reese opposed the Tampa fair bill on constitutional grounds. Mr. Richbourg, Mr. Decker, Mr. Abernethy, Mr. Parkinson and Mr. MacWilliams spoke for the measure.

## WOULDN'T HELP FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Though the sum sought by Representative Farris for the Florida Historical Society was modest, \$15 hundred dollars a year, the House refused to make the appropriation. The vote was 26 to 30. Representative DuPont registered his disapproval by saying that he didn't think the State's "archeives should be ransacked" for any such purpose. So the bill turned its toes where the daisy grows.

## ENUMERATORS' BILL PASSES SENATE.

Without objection, the bill providing relief for the census enumerators passed the Senate yesterday. On motion of Senator Massey the rules were waived and the bill was passed by a vote of 26.

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